

Melrose Township Board of Trustees
July 12, 2022 7:00 pm

Call to order: 7:00 pm V. Goodwin called to order

Present: V. Goodwin, S. Burr, M.P. Goldich, D. Nowland, R. Hissong Berry

Approval of the Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda as amended by adding Guest; Bob Jess county commissioner, and Ambulance agreement under new business.

Motion: S.Burr 2nd D. Nowland approved 5/0

Approval of minutes from previous meeting:

Minutes of the May 10, 2022 Regular Meeting

Motion to approve the minutes of 5/10/22 Regular Board meeting as presented.

Motion: S. Burr, 2nd D. Nowland approved 5/0

Guest – Bob Jess Charlevoix County Commissioner, the county has postponed the next section of the bike trail and halted all Capitol projects. There is a hiring freeze. This is a reaction to increased cost.

Old Business

- **Sewer Update** – A. Nordman presented the options for funding the system expansion. Current drain fields have had leaks recently. **Expansion estimates** projections were shared for the cost and funding options. Need to start with Blake at USDA with a pre-project meeting to get the funding arranged. Project could begin Spring 2024. Motion to schedule a pre-application meeting with USDA to start the sewer system expansion project. Motion: R. Hissong Berry 2nd S. Burr approved 5/0

Question on Perkins Development tap in payment. They are occupying the building. How is that happening without sewer connection?

V. Goodwin and A. Nordman will follow-up on this.

- **Water Update** – the hydrant bill has been increased like other water bills were raised earlier this year.
- **Cemetery Ordinance update** Waiting to hear back from some cemetery sextons.
- **Mettler Lawsuit update** We have won at this point. They have the right to appeal.

Attorney communication

- **Noise in the village - Ordinance direction for attorney**

Communication received 6/2/22

Mr. J. Dalton shared concerns over noise. Residents on and near West St. have posed 2 questions that need to be investigated. I. Ask business to use 10 pm as a quiet time for outdoor activities. II. If within 100 feet of a residence no amplified sound allowed. Businesses offered 10 pm as quiet time earlier this year. The County Club follows the 10 pm quiet time.

Motion to refer these 2 questions to our attorney for legal opinion: 1. Can we limit outdoor noise at a commercial business to 10 pm; and 2. Can we prohibit commercial outdoor amplified noise at any time within 100 feet of a residence?

Motion: M.P. Goldich 2nd R. H. Berry approved 5/0

- **Smith Street Easement agreement**

Walt Breidenstein has requested the easement proposal be revised to run from the Southwest corner to the Southeast corner of the property.

Need to confirm with our attorney could a simple permission be an option in place of an easement?

Motion to refer question to the Township Attorney if we can grant permission for use of land and implication in the future.

Motion: M.P. Goldich 2nd D. Nowland approved 5/0

- **Personnel Committee Report-**

Motion to pursue filling the open position of Zoning Administration as recommended by the Personnel Committee.

Motion: M.P. Goldich 2nd R. Hissong Berry approved 5/0

- **Employee pay raises**
Motion to increase the wages of our 2 current Maintenance employees and the Deputy Clerk by adding \$2 per hour retroactive to April 1 2022.
Motion: R. Hissong Berry, 2nd M. P. Goldich 3-Y/2-N approved

New Business

- **Budget Amendment for Park and Recreation Plan increase amount by \$8,000**
Motion to amend the budgeted amount for the Recreation plan work by adding \$8,000.
Motion: V. Goodman 2nd M. P. Goldich approved 5/0
Motion to sign contract with Networks Northwest to provide the 5-year Recreation Plan update.
Motion: V. Goodwin 2nd M.P. Goldich 5/0 approved
- **Bench request on Fourth St. Road End**
The Road End Ordinance will be reviewed to determine if we can install new benches. The park currently has a hold on any new benches being installed. Put on August agenda.
- **Budget adjustment for DDA of \$15,000 for sailboat sign repairs.**
Motion to amend the DDA budget by adding \$15,000 expense for repairs to the sailboat sign.
Motion: V. Goodwin 2nd M.P. Goldich 5/0 approved
- **Atlas tower request**
A proposal has been received from Atlas Tower to install a new tower in the park. Board needs to review and consider whether to pursue. Potential options include siting this tower on other (Township) property.
- **Ambulance Agreement**
J. Lamont presented new costs for Ambulance service to the Township. The formula continues to be based on census and average run volume. 5 Townships cover 50% of total operating costs and the City of Boyne City covers the other 50%. The bill will come next week. He introduced the new EMS director, Brenda Wilson.

Financial Report

- **General fund reports**
Motion to accept the financials as presented for May 2022 and June 2022, and to pay all bills.
Motion: M.P. Goldich 2nd S. Burr approved 5/0
- **Sewer fund reports**
Motion to Accept the sewer financials as presented and pay all bills.
Motion: D. Nowland 2nd S. Burr approved 5/0

Zoning Administrators Report see included report

Assessors Report

July Board of Review will be next Wednesday.
A tribunal hearing is scheduled for the WLWS personal property tax issue. B. Graham will defend the Township at this hearing.

Employee Grounds Report

Committee Reports

- **Planning Commission**
D. Nowland shared the Planning Commission report. They approved plans for the new gas station on US 131.
- **Zoning Board of Appeals** E. Lee reported
Met and approved expansion of a non-conforming building prior to the planning commission meeting this month.
- **Road Committee** E. Lee reported
Brining is done. CCRC is recommending that Fraley Road work be postponed until next year. Go out for bid in March of 2023 to use Afton stone that will be key in the erosion control. Put in the 2023-2024 budget plan.

- **Park Committee**

B. Johnson reported public reaction to the recent bath house renovation has been very positive. Questioned the Boat Launch parking site grounds condition. Offered to work on improvements. Question raised is Mobley Matt installed.

Motion to accept the Park Committee offer to supervise the grounds at the Boat Launch parking site area.

Motion: M.P. Goldich 2nd S. Burr approved 5/0

- **Fire Department**

See included report. Concern about the need to update the by-laws for the fire department was expressed. Motion to hire Brady Butka as a fireman per the Fire Department recommendation.

Motion: D. Nowland 2nd S. Burr approved 5/0

- **DDA**

B. Johnson reported the DDA is working on the sidewalk expansion, boardwalk along the river in the park, Woodies event in August and repairs to the sailboat sign.

- **Library Board**

M.P. Goldich shared updates from the library

Correspondence

- Recycling of political mailings

Public Comment called for.

Concern about Third Street being blocked by parked vehicles that prevents Fire Truck from traveling on the street.

Adjournment 8:54 pm